

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
HIROSHI TAKEMOTO ET AL. :EXAMINER:
SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :
FILED: HEREWITH : GROUP ART UNIT:
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR ASSEMBLING PARTS :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice claims 1-31.

Please add the following new claims 32-34 as follows:

--32. A device for fixing a part and a part support for mounting said part by use of photocuring adhesive, said part and said part support joined via an intermediate member formed of resin substantially transparent to light, comprising:

a light generator configured to generate light used to cure the photocuring adhesive;

a light guide configured to gather said generated light and illuminate said photocuring adhesive along a path passing through said intermediate member;

a filter located along said path between said light guide and said intermediate member

and configured to filter a portion of said light such that the intermediate member is able to maintain at least one of a color and a shape while the photocuring adhesive cures.

33. A device for fixing a part and a part support for mounting said part by use of photocuring adhesive, said part and said part support joined via an intermediate member formed of resin substantially transparent to light, comprising:

a light generator configured to generate light used to cure the photocuring adhesive;

a filter located between said light generator and said intermediate member and configured to filter a portion of said light such that the intermediate member is able to maintain at least one of a color and a shape while the photocuring adhesive cures; and

a blower configured to send air toward the intermediate member.

34. A method of adhering a first member to a second member via an intermediate member, said method comprising the steps of:

positioning said first member and said second member relative to each other;

applying a first adhesive to a first surface destined to comprise a first interface between said first member and said intermediate member;

applying a second adhesive to a second surface destined to comprise a second interface between said second member and said intermediate member;

contacting said first member to said intermediate member via said first adhesive to form said first interface;

contacting said second member to said intermediate member via said second adhesive to form said second interface; and

curing said first adhesive and said second adhesive with said intermediate member remaining in a free state such that said intermediate member can move due to shrinkage of at least one of said first adhesive and said second adhesive,

wherein, after curing, said first member and said second member are fixed to said intermediate member and therefore fixed to each other.--

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 having been canceled, and Claims 32-34 having been added by way of the present Amendment. New Claims 32 and 33 are directed toward devices that perform the method recited in original Claims 5 and 6, respectively. New Claim 34 recites the subject matter of Claim 1 and page 7, line 20-22 of the Specification. Since new Claims 32-34 are clearly supported by Claims 1, 5, 6, and the Specification, no new matter has been added.

Accordingly, examination of the merits of Claims 32-34 is believed to be in order. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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